5

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A stock preparation system includes a stock preparation apparatus and a sensor coupled with the stock preparation apparatus. The sensor is configured for sensing a physical parameter associated with the stock preparation apparatus, and includes a wireless transmitter for transmitting an air-borne wireless output signal corresponding to the sensed physical parameter. A remote unit includes a receiver for receiving the wireless output signal and a first data link for transmitting a remote output signal corresponding to the wireless output signal. A base unit includes a second data link at least intermittently coupled with the first data link for receiving the remote output signal. The base unit is configured for at least one of: analyzing the remote output signal; transmitting a state notification to the remote unit via the second data link and the first data link corresponding to a state of the sensed physical parameter; transmitting a price quote to the remote unit via the second data link and the first data link; and transmitting a shipment notification to the remote unit via the second data link and the first data link indicating a part has been shipped.

VOI0148.US 15